

## Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SCS-01 SCA-01 L-01 H-01 SSO-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00

PRS-01 /036 W

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O 121700Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3937

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2604

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, DR

SUBJECT: ACCESS TO DETAINED AMERICAN CITIZENS

REF: STATE 136431

1. AT MEETING WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY JIMENEZ AT 10:30 A.M. TODAY, I CONVEYED POINTS PURSUANT PARA 6 REFTEL. (TO MY FOLLOW-UP CALLS OF TUESDAY NIGHT AND WEDNESDAY MORNING, I RECEIVED REPLY THAT THERE WAS STILL NO RESPONSE TO TUESDAY'S DEMARCHE, AND LAST NIGHT I WAS UNABLE TO REACH HIM).

2. IN MAKING THESE POINTS, I EMPHASIZED THAT RESPONSE CONVEYED TO DEPT BY AMB VICIOSO THAT ACCESS TO THE DETAINED PUERTO RICANS WOULD BE GIVEN AS SOON AS THE INVESTIGATION WAS COMPLETED WAS UNSATISFACTORY

SINCE THE VIENNA CONVENTION CLEARLY REQUIRED CONSULAR ACCESS WITHOUT DELAY, AND THE DETAINED PERSONS HAD NOW BEEN HELD FOR 10 DAYS. THE FACTS OF THE DETENTION AND ITS POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP TO THE REPORTED GUERRILLA INFILTRATION WERE NOW IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, I NOTED, AND A BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS COULD BE EXPECTED ON THE MATTER. UNLESS WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE IMMEDIATE CONSULAR CONTACT, IT WOULD BE APPARENT FROM OUR RESPONSES THAT OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION, TO WHICH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND U.S. WERE SIGNATORIES, WERE  
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NOT FULFILLED.

3. JIMENEZ REPLIED THAT IT WAS UNFORTUANTE THAT THREE "DELINQUENTS" SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO IMPAIR THE CLOSE RELATIONS BEWTWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I AGREED, ADDING THAT CONSULAR CONTACT WAS THEREFORE ALL THE MORE URGENT, AND REEMPHASIZING THAT SUCH CONTACT WAS IN NO WAY INTENDED TO INTERFERE WITH DOMINICAN LEGAL PROCESSES. THE MATTER, I CONCLUDED, WAS OF GREAT CONCERN TO WASHINGTON AND THE EMBASSY AND I WAS APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE EFFECTS ON OUR RELATIONS IF CONSULAR CONTACT COULD NOT BE MADE TODAY.

4. JIMENEZ INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD OUR CONCERN AND SAID HE WOULD GET BACK TO ME ON IT IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY. WHEN I INSISTED THAT HE CALL ME EARLY TODAY, HE SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME BY 3 P.M.

5. AFTER THE MEETING WITH JIMENEZ, I CALLED THE PRESIDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, QUEZADA, CONVEYED TO HIM THE POINTS MADE TO JIMENEZ, AND TOLD HIM I WOULD APPRECIATE HIS COMMUNICATING THEM TO THE PRESIDENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE MATTER. QUEZADA AGREED AND I ASKED HIM TO CALL ME BACK WHEN HE HAD DONE SO.

6. MEANWHILE, THE DAO, ON MY INSTRUCTIONS, HAS BEEN CONVEYING TO HIS MILITARY CONTACTS INCREASING U.S. CONCERN AT OUR INABILITY TO MAKE CONSULAR CONTACT WITH THE DETAINED PUERTO RICANS. HE SPOKE TUESDAY WITH THE NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF, WHO SAID THAT THE MATTER WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE PRESIDENT, AND THIS MORNING WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMED FORCES, WHO SAID THAT THE CASE WAS BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THAT CONSULAR ACCESS WOULD BE GIVEN WHEN THE DETAINEES WERE PLACED IN THE HANDS OF CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

7. YESTERDAY, THE DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE OF PUERTO RICO, AGRAIT, SENT TELEGRAM TO THE EMBASSY INQUIRING ABOUT THE DETAINED PERSONS "MISSING ON A FISHING TRIP" AND REFERRING TO AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT THE BOAT WAS IN SANTO DOMINGO. I INFORMED HIM BY TELEPHONE THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THEY HAD BEEN DETAINED BY DOMINICAN AUTHORITIES, WHO WERE INVESTIGATING THEIR ACTIVITIES HERE AND THAT THOSE ACTIVITIES REPORTEDLY WERE RELATED TO LANDING OF A FEW GUERRILLAS, THAT THE EMBASSY WAS SEEKING TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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THREE DETAINED PERSONS, AND WOULD NOTIFY THEIR FAMILIES AS SOON AS MORE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** CASC, DR, US  
**To:** STATE  
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